Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, Quality information is essential to all aspects of today's healthcare system; and,

Whereas, Health information management (HIM) is the body of knowledge and practice that ensures the availability of health information to facilitate real-time healthcare delivery; and,

Whereas, Health information management is dedicated to the effective management of patient information and healthcare data needed to deliver quality treatment and care to the public; and,

Whereas, The role of a health information management professional is becoming more critical as the healthcare industry moves further into the information age; and,

Whereas, Having skilled health information management professionals on staff ensures that an organization has the right information available when and where it is needed while maintaining the highest standards of data integrity, confidentiality and security; and,

Whereas, The South Dakota Health Information Management Association (SDHIMA) is recognized as the premier source of health information management knowledge in the state of South Dakota; and,

Whereas, The SDHIMA promotes the advancement in competency of health information administrators, health information technologists and certified coding specialists employed in a variety of work settings, including hospitals, physician offices, ambulatory care facilities, extended care facilities, consulting firms, information system vendors, colleges and universities, insurance companies, pharmaceutical companies and many more; and,

Whereas, The SDHIMA consistently strives to keep their members one step ahead of the current HIM practice through professional development opportunities and sets an example by which others should aspire; and,

Whereas, The health information management professionals have continuing values and goals, individually and collectively, to improve the quality and efficiency of health care information, to balance patient confidentiality and the right to privacy with data usage of health information and to promote the impact of the information in reflecting and influencing the quality of health care:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim November 5-11, 2006, as

HEALTH INFORMATION & TECHNOLOGY WEEK

in South Dakota, and I encourage the promotion of this year's theme, "Managing Information, Improving Care."

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twentieth Day of October in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Six.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State